

March 28, 1974

retired prior to October 26, 1967, that's an additional amount in addition to that.

SENATOR WARNER: Was that part of LB445. As I understand you, the Omaha system would be fully funded, but others would not. The rest of the state system is not. That's a long term program.

SENATOR WHITNEY: That is correct. The Omaha school system, then would be fully funded.

SENATOR WARNER: Was that part of the bill that was passed, or was that because of some previous legislation that required this.

SENATOR WHITNEY: That was because of previous legislation which we didn't realize existed on the books.

SENATOR WARNER: Very good. Thank you, Senator Whitney.

PRESIDENT: Senator Frank Lewis. Excuse me, Senator Stahmer, you are passing, thank you. Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Well, Mr. Chairman, again let me emphasize the blame belongs, if there is blame, and that I certainly accept that. The intent of the bill is good. I've seen us come back with deficiency appropriations here time after time. I've seen us miss the mark, on when it cost on Homestead exemptions by millions of dollars. I've seen us put a million dollars for water on the floor, and I can't understand the concern unless it's some other reason. The program is valid. It's a reasonable thing to assume that we have people who are hard pressed on fixed income and I thought the case as presented here, and is accepted. There are some technicalities of the law, and this money is necessary because of it. Senator Warner, has even wrote in on it when he mentioned that it is a lump sum payment, instead of pay as you go. This was done by the Legislature three or four years ago, so that you don't have a constant interchange of money, and recording, and administrative costs on a monthly basis with the Omaha Public School systems retirement. Now I don't know why we are longating the discussion, I think we are to the point where we can make a judgement on the merits. It's obvious that Senator Whitney was not in favor of this bill last year, and he shouldn't have to take any blame for it. Whatever happened with the bill. He fought it hand, tooth and toenail. And some of the others did. I was for the bill. I still am. I'm for funding it. And if it's a million dollar mistake this year, I'm for that. Let's put it in there. Let's move it on. I think it's time. I think we have exhausted it for all purposes.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nore. Your light is on, did you want to discuss the issue.

SENATOR NORE: I move the question.

PRESIDENT: The question has been moved, does the Chair see 5 hands? The question is, shall the debate now close? All those in favor of closing debate will vote aye. All those opposed will vote no. The motion is to close debate. That's fine. Thank you Clerk will record.

CLERK: 25 ayes.

PRESIDENT: Debate will now close. Senator Whitney is now closing on his motion on 787. Senator Whitney